

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the claims:**

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for covering payloads, said apparatus comprising:
  - (a) a suspended track;
  - (b) a hoist, slidably engaged to said track, said hoist having a retractable line, said retractable line being maneuverable in multiple directions;
  - (c) a spreader bar attachable to said retractable line, said bar having means for attaching to a covering; and
  - (d) means to move said hoist.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

9. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said means to move said hoist comprises [an electronically operable remote controlled system] a non-pendant operable remote controlled system;

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. (Amended) The apparatus of [claim 9 further comprising] claim 1, wherein said means to move said hoist comprises:
  - (a) a guide extending laterally from said hoist; and
  - (b) a wire connected at one end to said hoist, running along said guide, and connected at its second end to said remote controlled system.

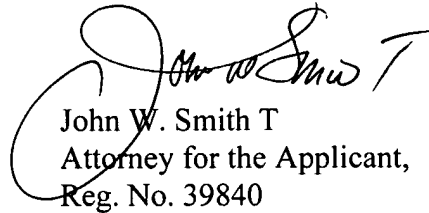
Claim 15 has been amended as follows:

15. (Amended) An apparatus for covering payloads, said apparatus comprising a movable hoist slidably suspended over a payload, said hoist having a retractable line that is maneuverable in multiple directions and that can be connected to a covering to be spread over the payload.

***Conclusion***

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections of these claims and pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



John W. Smith T  
Attorney for the Applicant,  
Reg. No. 39840

OF COUNSEL  
Bradley Arant Rose & White LLP  
One Federal Place  
1819 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Birmingham, Alabama 35203-2104  
(205) 521-8521 (direct dial)  
(205) 521-8000 (main)